

Accepted with Corrections 3-2-19
Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.
November 3, 2018

The meeting was opened at 12:31 p.m. by Chairperson Rowena A. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Everyone was welcomed, introductions were made, and the rules and guidelines of the meeting were discussed. District 19 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 27 members present (13 voting members) at this regular meeting. Susan B was designated timekeeper.

Rowena A asked for Al-Anon birthdays to stand. There were 8 birthdays ranging from 9-47 years. After a round of applause, she then informed the members that Cheryl N had resigned as Alternate Delegate. It is important to have that position filled. Full description of the job can be found on page 148 of the manual. Being an Alternate Delegate includes learning the job of Alternate firsthand, working alongside the Delegate, and visiting Area Groups and Districts. Volunteering as an Alternate does not mean you automatically graduate to Delegate. Rowena asked all present to think about it and hoped that an interim Alternate Delegate would be found by the end of the day.

BOARD MINUTES: Rowena A read the minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held July 14, 2018.

MINUTES: The July 14, 2018 minutes were presented by Mary P. Corrections were made. A motion was made to approve and accept minutes with corrections. It was then seconded and the motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carol W reported on the period from May 1, 2018-August 31, 2018. Beginning balance was \$12,046.17; total receipts were \$2,654.96; total expenses were \$1,075.75; leaving total cash on hand before reserve donation \$13,625.38; Reserve Donation for 2017 was \$0 since we have attained our goal of \$6,000. That leaves the ending balance of total cash on hand \$13,625.38. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period; beginning balance was \$6,010.18(goal \$6,000): We received \$.17 in interest, leaving the Reserve fund at \$6,010.35.

Carol then reported on the proposed 2019 Budget. She explained that she used the 2017 data as a template and increased or decreased categories with estimates. Carol stated the only change she made since the July 14 meeting was a deduction in the mileage from \$1350 to \$1000 because there didn't seem to be as much need this year.

Carol went on to explain that the SIAWSC group had a discussion about the North Central Regional Delegates Meeting. (NCDRM) This is a meeting held every March for Delegates, Alternate Delegates, Past Delegates, and interested members that help prepare them for the WSO meeting— WSC (World Service Conference) later in the year in April. It's an important meeting that many members felt should allow for more money since mileage, food, lodging, and registration for one person could be used up quickly and only \$1,000 was allotted in the budget.

There was much discussion concerning limits and caps. The final thoughts were that we have money to spare and we should encourage people to attend. Although an amount was designated in the motion, it was agreed that if more people were to attend and need reimbursement, it would be allowed. The following two motions were then made:

Motion: We want to increase the North Central Regional Delegate Meeting expense to \$2500 from \$1000 . It was seconded and voted unanimously to increase. Motion: We accept the budget with the above changes . (change of mileage from \$1350 to \$1000 and change of North Central Regional Delegate Meeting from \$1,000 to \$2500)Total expenses would then be \$8,438. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Carol continued to inform the group that the WSO annually ~~asked~~ ~~advises for funds expense amounts~~ for the ~~delegates to attend next~~ WSO WSC (World Service Conference) Conference. The ~~equalized total~~ expense ~~would be~~ is \$1,972 this year. With the extra funds the Area now has, the

SIAWSC had voted to send ~~the equalized~~ this amount. After discussion, the consensus was agreement with the SIAWSC, to send the \$1,972. Carol thanked all Districts for their donations and reminded them to send District number and name when sending a check.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT:

Susan reported that she is revamping the contact list and trying to simplify some email to aid in transitions. This is an ongoing task. She is training an Alternate to insure there is backup during this time. Susan is willing to give 10-30 minute workshops during or after the SIAFG meetings. She realizes repetition is necessary in learning new facts. She encourages DRs to send information about coming events to her via email or snail mail. She will then disburse to Area DRs. Her email is siafg.group.records@gmail.com. Her snail mail is Susan Ballard. 11716 Catatoga Drive Plainview, IL 62685 Please contact her with any contact changes.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

DISTRICT 10: Kathy H gave thanks to Becky R and Megan D who started an Alateen meeting on Sept. 6, 2018. Cindy S distributes a District newsletter quarterly which is well received. The phone service is still getting calls and requests so it will continue as part of District 10 public Outreach. She also asked if anyone knew Al-Anon meetings were covered by insurance. The manual on page 58 states that the WSO does not provide insurance. Local groups can look into it if interested.

DISTRICT 14: The new DR for District 14 is Katie G.

DISTRICT 16: Fern notified Susan that the DR has resigned from Dist. 16 and there is not a new one.

DISTRICT 20: Dottie Y explained how her Friday Morning Group had always had a paid babysitter for their meetings. This had become an issue in the last year because her group was having trouble raising enough funds. It's the only meeting in the entire district that has a babysitter and many moms have attended because of that. Her group sent a request for donations to the District. The District denied (using Tradition 4), but sent the request to all groups. Each group held a Group Conscience .Using the Traditions, especially #4 and #7, each Group made their decisions. Some denied , but left it up to individuals to make their own personal contribution, if desired. Some groups donated as their Group. Since the one time donations came in, the Friday Morning Group has gotten back on their feet financially and it has all worked out.

DELEGATE: Tim E made a plea for a volunteer to stand by the end of the meeting for the Alternate Delegate position. He relayed that he has a year and a half left as Delegate. He has learned a lot and grown in his Program because of it. He would appreciate an Alternate as support. The North Central Regional Delegates Meeting is a precursor for the ~~WSO meeting~~. WSC (World Service Conference). This is how we learn. This March meeting is in Wisconsin this year. There are usually 40-50 people who attend. The location changes annually. SIAFG has not hosted for 10 years. This is another question we need to determine today. **Do we want to host the North Central Regional Delegates Meeting in 2020? We'll return to this question.**

WORKSHOP: Katie from District 14 presented the pamphlet 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. The group broke into 4 small circles. Each was given a list of the Traditions and were to answer designated questions about 3 of them. After the 20 minute discussion the smaller groups reunited for a large discussion. Feedback was positive. Many Home Groups told of integrating the Traditions into the meetings and how important they are to Al-Anon. It was also stated that they are guidelines, not rules. They are flexible to interpretation, which can get a lively discussion going.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

ALATEEN: Becky R reported that she traveled to Pinkneyville for a training session of 8 individuals for AMIAS training for their district. She also reported that Bloomington Normal now has 2 meetings that started this fall that consistently serve 8-10 teens. They have 2 AMIAS certified and 5 more in the process. The Springfield area has worked to organize an Alateen meeting also. Becky presented a 50 minute workshop at the Illinois State Al-Anon Convention. It was primarily background information on Alateen as well as sharing from current AMIAS on ideas, challenges and functions of their Alateen groups. She has had 10 Al-Anons turn in paperwork for background checks to become certified and at least 3 more are in the process. These background checks cost \$20 per person , so the typical \$100 budgeted will not be enough this year. This growth is exciting.

WAYS AND MEANS: Suzanne raffled Halloween and Christmas baskets. She reported that 41 blue “Let it Begin With Me” bags are still available for \$3 each. She is not sure what Theresa plans as the next fundraiser. Cathy B suggested looking into the website valleygraphics.com which sells recovery products. Cathy discovered this site when she attended the Wisconsin Al-Anon **State** Convention.

FORUM & LITERATURE: Kathy H displayed the pamphlet P-94 Hope & Understanding for Parents & Grandparents. It costs \$.75 each and has been a big seller in her district. She also mentioned that the WSO intends to begin selling laminated inspirational bookmarks.

WEBMASTER: Susan repeated her willingness to offer 10-30 minute workshops at Area meetings to help members with technology issues.

ARCHIVES: Fern brought the Archives binders to display. She thanked Tim E for bringing the archives to the Convention. But because of last minute problems, the Archives were not able to be displayed. Fern was applauded for all her hard work. Discussion about archives reaching next year’s Convention were tabled at this time. Fern offered Group History forms for anyone who hasn’t yet filled one out.

NEWS-O-GRAM: The deadline for News-O-Gram is January 10, 2019. DRs should send business information to siafnog.org@gmail.com or Jan Tucker, 105 Susan Ct, East Peoria, IL 61611. Personal submissions are limited to 75 words or less and should also be sent to Jan. Remember that this is our publication. the last edition only had enough submissions for one full page.

CONVENTION Liaison: Cathy relayed information about the Wisconsin second annual Al-Anon Convention. Rather than raffling a quilt, they raffled baskets, forum subscriptions, and inspirational items from a Recovery website called valleygraphics.com. The Wisconsin Convention Committee also found they got a discount for securing the hotel for the convention for 3 years hence. Their theme was “Unlocking Possibilities, One Day at a Time”.

WSO TRUSTEE VISIT: At the March 10,2018 SIAFG Meeting, it was reported that the World Service Office had contacted SIAFG to ask if we would be interested in a visit from Board of Trustees member. After much discussion between the members, Rowena summarized that Spring would be the best time for the group. At the July 14, 2018 meeting it was decided that Tim E and Rowena A would contact the WSOs and invite a Trustee to the March 2019 meeting. As of today, WSO has not returned the call. Rowena told the group that she had talked with Sandy W at the Convention about presenting a Service Workshop at the March 2, 2019 meeting. This could be a teleconference or in person. Susan B had also offered a technology workshop. Consensus was whichever of these options worked out for the date March 2 would be acceptable.

RETURN TO QUESTIONS ON HOLD: Rowena asked if anyone would stand for the Alternate Delegate position. Katie G from District 14 said she would consider an interim alternate delegate position and would let the group know her decision in March. **Ro then appointed Katie as interim Alternate Delegate with the understanding that Katie would give her final decision in March.**

Rowena asked if anyone would be interested in hosting the North Central Regional Delegates Meeting in 2020. Kathy H from District 10 volunteered to Chair that Meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2019 at Memorial Medical Center. District 20 will host.

The 2019 meetings are planned for March 2, July 13, and November 2, 2019.

This meeting was adjourned at 3:10p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING

